

Something Better (Boston: Lee and Shepard; Portland: Dresser & McLellan) is calculated to make the reader profoundly glad that the author has not offered him Anything Worse. Sensational and abounding in poor puns, is the verdict passed upon the volume.

The new novels in the Harper brown-paper series will be Young Masgrave, by Mrs. O. Plant, and A Jewel of a Girl, by the author of Queens.

A sequel to Daniel Deronda is announced by Wm. T. Gill & Co., under the title of Gwendolen; or Reclaimed. It is not announced whether it is by the author of the continuation of E...

A volume by Charles Francis Adams, Jr., on Railroads and Railroad Questions, is in press by G. P. Putnam's Sons. It comprises

Littell's Living Age shows its right to the second part of its title by announcing a new volume with fresh attractions for the new year and the third by the fact that this volume is the 136th. William Black's story will be the serial attraction of this favorably known ecle-

The Rev. Joseph Cook says the six greatest works of fiction of this century are Richter's *Titan*, Goethe's *Wilhelm Meister*, Hugo's *Les Misérables*, Scott's *Ivanhoe*, Thackeray's *Levy*, comes, and Mrs. Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in the order named; with "a great gap" between the first three and the last.

The London Nonconformist of Dec. 24 has very favorable review of Mr. Stedman's latest volume of poems. Of the leading clergies the

"Altogether elevated and ideal, quick in comprehension and graceful in form, we regard this poem on Hawthorne as one of the finest pieces of art that have yet come to us from America." It quotes the stirring war ballad "Kearney at Seven Pines" and pronounces "worthy to be set beside Browning's *How the Bells of Ghent Rang* when they first brought the good news from Ghent to Aix."

A Song of Sixpence, was sung in the sixteenth century. The Frog and the Mouse was licensed in 1580, and Three Blind Mice belongs to the same period. Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat, where have you been? was a nursery rhyme in Queen Elizabeth's day. Gifts and Boys Come out to Play, was written in the reign of Charles I. The Old Woman Tossed in a Blanket was popular in the eighteenth century.

No change will be made at present in the size or shape of the Atlantic Monthly in consequence of its absorption of the Galaxy. The only present effect of the consolidation will be an increase in the list of Atlantic contributors and the addition to its subscription list of the entire constituency of the Galaxy. In 1845

March number will be articles by Hon. Gideon Welles and Mr. Richard Grant White, which were prepared originally for the February Gazette.

Scribner's Monthly has hit upon another new idea. The February issue will be a "Midwinter number," its cover splashed with snow, and the table of contents pushed out of sight

upon which peep in a pretty rank of snow  
birds. The number will contain a full-page  
frontispiece, a portrait of Abraham Lincoln, the  
Wyatt Eaton, engraved in remarkable repro-  
duction of Mr. Eaton's style by Cole. The pic-  
ture is faced by a sonnet on Lincoln by Mr.  
Stoddard; seeing the picture, he offered to  
write a poem to accompany it, and on Chris-

filled his promise in a sonnet remarkably strong for "occasional" verse. Among other features of the number will be a paper on the California Mining Camp, in which the article as well as the illustrations, is by Mrs. Hallow Foote, who takes up the pen as easily as the pencil in describing her Far West home; a illustrated article on Recent Church Decorations.

tion, by Clarence Cook; a discussion of The College Rank of Distinguished Men, by Chas. F. Thwing; more of Mr. Stoughton's Radde Grange absurdities; a paper by John Burroughs; and poems by Dr. Holland, Mr. Gilde Professor Boyesen, Charles De Kay, Mr. Stoddard, and others. Dr. Holland writes of church debts, upholding the Kimball movement. Of this "Midwinter number," a head-

thousand copies will be printed.

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**Magazine Notices.**

Two of the most notable papers in the January-February number of the *International Review* are by German writers. Imperial Federalism in Germany, by Baron von Holtzendorff of Munich, is a consideration of the new imperi-

construction from a North-German point of view. The writer is not sanguine of its success, for the new order of things has no basis in tradition or long usage, and is not well fitted to the needs of the people. Even the much-praised codification of laws does not altogether meet with his approval, for the right of trial by jury is not recognized. The other article, from a German pen, and of great interest to

The other papers of the number are all of interest and some of them of great value. Whittier's sonnet on Thiers has been copied in the *Journal of the American Society of Numismatists*.

first instalment of a paper on Elements of National Wealth, in which he treats of conditions of national abundance, of the relations of capital to national development, of lenders and borrowers, employers and employed, and of wages and interest. Edward A. Freeman, the historian, has a brilliant rhetorical article, full of reminiscence and suggestion.

to his first Impressions of Athens," compared him to his first Impressions of Rome, published in the *International* some time since. Samuel Place in History is the title of a pleasant paper by Ben: Perley Poore. Professor W. G. Sumner reviews, under the caption, Money and Laws, Henry V. Poore's book with that title, exposes Mr. Poore's errors and fallacies, and propounds sound financial doctrine. Dr. Sa-

nel Osgood begins a *Study of Modern Love*, and advances the idea that the modern literary treatment of that passion can be traced to Goethe's *Sorrows of Werther*. The paper promises to be of novel and unusual interest. Alexander H. Stephens contributes an article, *Town Count of the Electoral Vote*, in which he argues that no constitutional amendment is necessary to regulate the count, but that a law should

passed by Congress requiring that all matters appertaining to the validity of the returns furnished the President of the Senate, as well as all questions touching the constitutional qualifications of electors, shall be determined by both Houses in joint convention by a *per capita* vote. This he holds to be authorized by the Constitution. Philip Gilbert Hamerton gives

The current number, the first of the first volume, amply sustains the rich promise of the brilliant and vigorous Review which has apparently so fine a future before it. Now is a good time to subscribe. Published by A. S. Barnes & Co., New York.

The insurance commissioners have made application for the appointment of a receiver for the Charter Oak Life Insurance Company. An injunction against the company has been granted.

Charles W. Ealer, a brakeman on the New York and New England railroad, was run over and fatally injured in Boston Thursday.











